

New Zealand Highlights (private driver)

prepared for Guests of Saroj



Day 1 - Sunday 19th January 2025

Kia Ora, Welcome to Auckland



INCLUDED - Private Transfer Auckland Airport to Auckland Accommodation

If after 1.5 hours from landing you have not cleared customs and found your Tourcorp representative, please call +64 9 213 2121 to advise your driver of your estimated time of arrival into the arrivals hall.

You will be met at the Auckland airport by the driver and transferred to your Auckland accommodation.

INCLUDED - Itinerary information by App & in-country support

Our exclusive Touring App. This app includes your full itinerary and reservation details, all available online and offline, as well as lots of other great information within the location guide such as restaurant information, weather forecasts, and local activity suggestions. Any changes or updates to your itinerary are available instantly to you, and it's an easy way to keep in touch with us. Contact, gives you access to our free call number, in app messaging and after-hours service if you require support while on tour. Documents, are saved if any of your activities require a voucher presentation for entry. You will find a copy of the voucher here. Itinerary Info, contains information about how far you will travel throughout your tour and if driving an idea of how much fuel may be. By selecting Itinerary on any given day you will see much more detail of the arrangements made for you and even some ideas on extras you may enjoy along the journey.

Welcome to Auckland

Auckland, New Zealand's self-proclaimed "City of Sails" is the country's largest metro area. Resting between the Pacific Ocean and the Tasman Sea, this urban paradise has something for everyone. Surrounded by native bush, rainforests, and an abundance of beaches, Auckland is a playground for both the city savvy and those with an eye for adventure. Explore the central museums and galleries on foot, or get out onto the water to experience the best views of the city.

Your accommodation: M Social Hotel Auckland

A contemporary hotel for the curious, the explorers and those who thrive on new experiences. Functionally chic, this contemporary hotel overlooks the vibrant Princes Wharf that is home to a good array of dining, entertainment and shopping experiences.

Room type: 2 x Social View Room (includes breakfast)



Day 2 - Monday 20th January 2025

Auckland to Matamata and Hobbiton, Matamata to Rotorua



INCLUDED - Private Driver Guide

Auckland to Matamata and Hobbiton

Head southbound on State Highway one through the lush farmland and dairy pastures of the Waikato region. The Bombay Hills mark the outer boundary of the greater Auckland area and it's here you turn inland towards Matamata. This is the real Middle Earth, take an escorted tour and you'll see many locations used in the filming of The Lord of The Rings and The Hobbit as well as visit the actual set of Hobbiton.

Hobbiton Movie Set tour from Shires Rest - suggested activity

Become immersed in the The Lord of the Rings and Hobbit films when you visit the actual Hobbiton movie set. Located just outside of Matamata in the heart of the lush Waikato farming region, your tour will begin with a drive through a picturesque sheep farm. You'll then be taken through Hobbit Holes, the Green Dragon Inn, the Mill and the Party Tree while your guide shares behind-the-scenes tales and insight into the making of the films. Spend time wandering through Bagshot Row before being led inside a Hobbit Hole to view the detailed interiors, designed to provide an authentic glimpse into the dwelling of a Hobbit.

Tours leave daily from the Shire's Rest every 30 minutes. Allow two and a half hours approximately including transport to and from The Shire's Rest.

Matamata to Rotorua

Just south of Matamata is the township of Tirau, home to the largest tin sheep and sheepdog, but it also offers a surprising number of bric a brac, art, craft and antique stores if you feel like browsing.

Arriving into the City of Rotorua the regions geothermal activity becomes evident as you see steam rising from the roadside and surrounding hills.

Considered the cultural centre for the Maori people, Rotorua is the ideal place to gain an insight into the history and culture. Dominating the display is the devastating volcanic eruption of Mt. Tarawera in 1886 but also of great interest is the Maori battalion display which portrays stories of this once feared military unit.

Nearby Ohinemutu Village is the original site of the first Maori settlers in the area and despite its now modern surroundings and buildings you can still gain a sense of what the original village was like. The magnificent meeting house and historic carvings along with the unique 'Tudor-style' St Faiths Church feature in many visitors photo albums.

One of the most popular introductions to the Maori Culture is through an evening at Mitai Maori Village where you can enjoy performances and demonstrations followed by a traditionally cooked hangi meal.

Of course Rotorua is also a great place to enjoy many other activities including, fishing, 4WD trips, relaxing spa treatments, mountain biking, walking and hiking plus helicopter and float plane trips.

Your accommodation: Sudima Lake Rotorua

Sudima Hotel Lake Rotorua boasts a location that is second-to-none, right on the shores of beautiful Lake Rotorua.

Adjacent to the world-famous Polynesian Spa complex and just a short stroll to all the attractions in Rotorua.

Room type: 2 x Superior Plus Room, 4 x adult full breakfast



Driving distance and time (approximate) for this leg is: 237 kms / 147 miles : 3.0 hours

Day 3 - Tuesday 21st January 2025

Explore Rotorua, Te Ra Daytime & Te Po Evening Experience Combo at Te Puia



Explore Rotorua

Peppered with natural hot springs, boiling mud pools and steaming geysers, Rotorua sits within one of the worlds most active volcanic regions. Geothermal landmarks aside, this city of sulphur has a rich indigenous history. Home to several prominent Maori tribes, a visit to one of the Maori Villages should be high on your agenda, as should an excursion to the Polynesian Spa for an invigorating soak in its natural mineral hot springs.

Spike your adrenaline at Velocity Valley Adventure Park on stomach-dropping attractions such as static skydiving, or a giant swing reaching 130 km per hour. Alternatively, head up the Rotorua Gondola for soaring lake views, and ride the luge at night for an extra thrill.

Fans of Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit should drive to nearby Matamata and experience the actual movie set 'Hobbiton'. Make the most of your time in Rotorua with an excursion through the Wai-O-Tapu Thermal Wonderland, one of the area's most colourful volcanic attractions.

Agrodome Farm Show and Farm Tour Combo - suggested activity

Set on a 350-acre working sheep and cattle farm with 1200 sheep and 120 beef cattle, the Agrodome gives its visitors a hands-on, live farming experience. The Farm Show stars a cast of talented animals – not just sheep! The remarkable farm dogs will amaze you, as they demonstrate their ability to respond to commands and keep those sheep (and ducks!) in line. Then pop across to the herding area to watch a free live dog trial after the show! Explore the farm and learn the history of New Zealand agriculture on custom designed farm trailers. Along the way, there are fascinating things to learn and a few laughs too! You'll get to hand-feed and take photos with all sorts of friendly animals, including Romney sheep, cattle, deer, llamas, ostrich, pigs and alpacas. Explore the fruit orchard and olive grove and have the chance to taste natural kiwifruit juice and delicious sweet honey that comes from the farm.

INCLUDED - Te Ra Daytime & Te Po Evening Experience Combo at Te Puia

Immerse yourself in the vibrant heart of Māori culture with a guided tour through the New Zealand Māori Arts & Crafts Institute. Discover the rich traditions of greenstone carving, wood carving, and flax weaving, where master artisans and students meticulously craft stunning works of art. Continue your journey at Rotowhio Pā, a living Māori village, and visit the Kiwi Conservation Centre for a rare glimpse of New Zealand's iconic and endangered Kiwi bird. Explore the dramatic landscapes of Te Whakarewarewa geothermal valley, home to bubbling mud pools and the awe-inspiring Pōhutu Geyser, the largest active geyser in the Southern Hemisphere. In the evening, indulge in Te Puia's world-famous hāngī buffet dinner at Pātaka Kai Restaurant, Bar & Café. Savor a delectable array of traditional Māori cuisine, with menus that change to highlight seasonal specialties. The cultural highlight of your visit will take place in the beautifully carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. Experience a pōhiri (traditional welcome), followed by a mesmerizing performance featuring waiata (song), mōteatea (traditional chant), poi, and the powerful haka. As the night concludes, enjoy hot chocolate and steamed pudding while surrounded by the enchanting steam of the geyser terrace, bathed in colored light. This unforgettable evening at Te Puia offers a deep connection to Māori culture, artistry, and the natural wonders of New Zealand. Allow approximately 4.5 hours for this experience.

Your accommodation: Sudima Lake Rotorua

Sudima Hotel Lake Rotorua boasts a location that is second-to-none, right on the shores of beautiful Lake Rotorua. Adjacent to the world-famous Polynesian Spa complex and just a short stroll to all the attractions in Rotorua.

Room type: 2 x Superior Plus Room, 4 x adult full breakfast



Day 4 - Wednesday 22nd January 2025

Rotorua to Napier



Rotorua to Napier

This drive will take you through the thermal region just south of Rotorua. Home to a plethora of unique geothermal attractions including boiling mud pits, natural hot springs and steaming geysers, this area is a must do before you move on to Napier. Notable attractions are Wai-O-Tapu, Waimangu and Craters of the Moon.

Continue on to Taupo and marvel at the lake, a giant crater formed following a volcanic eruption in the year 180 CE. As you approach the city, be sure to stop at Huka Falls to view the spectacular sight of hundreds of cubic metres of water spilling every second down the narrow 11 metre drop.

For an extra thrill take a jet-boat ride to the base of the falls. Leaving Taupo, follow the road as it climbs the rugged Ahimanawa Range before descending back down the Pacific Coast to art deco Napier.

Art Deco Trust Guided Evening Walk - Suggested Activity

Experience Napier's fascinating heritage created by the dramatic story of this city's rebirth in the vibrant 1930s. In February 1931, Napier was levelled by earthquake and fire but was rebuilt in the depths of the Great Depression in just two years. Nowhere else in the world can you see such a concentration of buildings in the styles of the 1930s: Art Deco, Spanish Mission, and Stripped Classical.

Your accommodation: Art Deco Masonic Hotel

The Art Deco Masonic Hotel occupies a significant historic building on Napier's waterfront and has been richly refurbished in keeping with the Art Deco architecture. With its central location and decadent décor, this is the best place to experience what Napier is famous for.

Room type: 2 x Superior King, 4 x adult full breakfast, 1 x Parking



Driving distance and time (approximate) for this leg is: 210 kms / 131 miles : 2.4 hours

Day 5 - Thursday 23rd January 2025

Napier to Wellington City via Masterton



Napier to Wellington City via Masterton

The rolling countryside of the Hawke's Bay leads you into some of New Zealand's richest farmland, located around the Manawatu region. Passing along the Manawatu Gorge the Wairarapa welcomes you. Masterton is home to the golden shears sheep shearing competition while just further south Greytown boasts the largest concentration of historic wooden buildings in the country. Nearby Martinborough is home to dozens of boutique wineries. The route takes you over the Rimutaka Range and along the magnificent natural harbour that the capital city of Wellington sits upon.

Your accommodation: Bolton Hotel Wellington

The Bolton Hotel offers contemporary apartment-style accommodation in the heart of Wellington. Just steps from the Parliament buildings and central business district, Bolton Hotel is conveniently close to the best of the city's shops, cafes and restaurants and is within walking distance of Wellington's vibrant waterfront.

Room type: 1 x Classic One Bedroom Suite (includes breakfast for two)



Driving distance and time (approximate) for this leg is: 322 kms / 200 miles : 4.1 hours

Day 6 - Friday 24th January 2025

Interislander Ferry Wellington to Picton



INCLUDED - Interislander Ferry Wellington to Picton

The 92 km journey between Wellington and Picton takes around 3 hours and has been described as 'one of the most beautiful ferry rides in the world'. Leaving Wellington Harbour you pass many interesting points such as Pencarrow Head on top of which is New Zealand's oldest lighthouse (1859). Red Rocks is home to a seal colony and Oterangi Bay is the site which recorded the country's highest ever wind speed of 268 kph (167 mph).

From the Cook Strait spectacular views of the Kaikoura Ranges on the South Island can be enjoyed and dolphins and many sea birds are often seen. Around one hour of the cruise takes you through the Marlborough Sounds and this region of bush covered mountains, small islands, crystal clear waters and secluded bays offer remarkable photographic opportunities. The final leg of your cruise travels through Queen Charlotte Sound before coming to an end in the picturesque town of Picton.

The standard baggage allowance for Interislander is, two items of check-in luggage (23 kg/ 200 linear cm per bag) + one small bag + one handbag or laptop bag per person. If you think you will be traveling with more than this please advise your travel specialist and they will book an extra bag for you.

INCLUDED - Picton Ferry to Blenheim Accommodation with Picton Shuttles

You will be met at the Picton Ferry Terminal by a representative of Picton Shuttles and transferred to your Blenheim accommodation.

Your accommodation: Carnmore Chateau Marlborough

Carnmore Chateau Marlborough offers luxury accommodation in the heart of Blenheim, one of New Zealand's most famous wine regions. This boutique hotel prides itself on offering guests luxury accommodation with enviable attention to detail, overlooking Seymour Square Gardens and is just a short walk from Blenheim's town centre.

Room type: 2 x Executive Suite, 4 x adult full buffet breakfast



Day 7 - Saturday 25th January 2025

Blenheim to Kaikoura, Ocean's Cabin with Whale Watch Kaikoura



INCLUDED - Private Driver Guide

Blenheim to Kaikoura

Cross the 'dry hills' of Marlborough and head towards one of the most spectacular coastlines of the South Island, the Kaikoura Coast. The road hugs the shore for around 50 kilometres and offers many chances to view native wildlife. To the east is the South Pacific Ocean and to the west the towering Kaikoura Ranges. Kaikoura Township is a bustling little place with many cafes, restaurants and shops, but the main reason for visiting here is the wildlife and it's one of the only places in New Zealand you can see whales year round.

Whale Watch Kaikoura is New Zealand's only marine-based whale watching company offering visitors up-close encounters the sperm whale. Sperm whales can be seen here year-round and depending on the season you may also see migrating humpback whales, pilot whales, blue whales and southern right whales.

INCLUDED - Ocean's Cabin with Whale Watch Kaikoura

Please call 24 hours prior on 0800 655 121 to reconfirm your trip and check conditions.

Sea conditions can be choppy even on calm days; make sure you take suitable precautions if needed. This tour will take approximately 3.5 hours.

Experience New Zealand's only marine based whale watching company. Whale Watch Kaikoura offer a once-in-a-lifetime, up close encounter with the giant Sperm Whale. You are also likely to encounter New Zealand fur seals, dusky dolphins and albatross. Depending on the season you may also see pilot, blue and southern right whales as well as migrating humpbacks. Often orcas can be spotted here and the world's smallest dolphin, the Hectors, occasionally make an appearance.

Cruise in style on modern catamarans, specifically designed for whale watching, featuring large passenger cabins and outside viewing decks. Passenger numbers for each tour are kept below the vessel carrying capacity to ensure your tour experience remains a personal one.

Please reconfirm your Whale Watch tour the day prior or in the morning if you are taking an afternoon tour. Sailings can be cancelled or postponed if sea conditions are not suitable. Call Whale Watch on 0800 655 121 and quote your reservation reference.

A full safety briefing is given first and you will spend approximately 2 1/2 hours at sea. If you suffer from motion sickness then please take precautions and please make sure you are dressed for the conditions.

Your accommodation: Sudima Hotel Kaikōura

This state-of-the-art waterfront hotel in Kaikōura has a 4.5 star rating with an outstanding in-house restaurant, a bar and conference facilities.

Room type: 2 x Superior King, 4 x Adult Buffet Breakfast



Driving distance and time (approximate) for this leg is: 110 kms / 68 miles : 1.3 hours

Day 8 - Sunday 26th January 2025

Kaikoura to Christchurch, Christchurch Gondola



Kaikoura to Christchurch

Today you travel down the coast before heading inland through the North Canterbury wine region - the Waipara Valley. As you drive through this area you'll be greeted by one of New Zealand's most notorious animals, the sheep. If you've time on your hands we recommend taking a detour to Hanmer Springs for relaxing dip in its thermal pools. Arriving into Christchurch you'll see a new and improved city, steadily rising from the ruins of the 2011 earthquake.

INCLUDED - Christchurch Gondola

This activity is OPEN-DATED. Your voucher is valid for 14 days from the date above.

The gondola operates daily from 10:00-17:00.

In the Heathcote Valley, just fifteen minutes from the heart of Christchurch City, ride the Christchurch Gondola for nearly a kilometer to the collapsed rim of an extinct volcano, which exploded six million years ago. Take in the spectacular panoramic views of the central city, Lyttelton Harbour, Banks Peninsula, Canterbury Plains, and the distant peaks of the Southern Alps. Wander the summit complex, enjoy a coffee or lunch in the cafe, and choose one of many nature walks to explore or visit the Christchurch Discovery Rive, a dramatic reconstruction of the history of the Port Hills and Christchurch.

Your accommodation: Distinction Hotel Christchurch

This luxury hotel is centrally located in the revitalised Cathedral Square in the heart of the city, a short stroll from the Avon River, Botanical Gardens, Christchurch Casino, Cashel Mall and new Christchurch Convention Centre.

Room type: 2 x Superior Room, 4 x Adult Full Breakfast



Driving distance and time (approximate) for this leg is: 178 kms / 111 miles : 2.5 hours

Day 9 - Monday 27th January 2025

Christchurch to Lake Tekapo, Tekapo Springs Stargazing



Christchurch to Lake Tekapo

Today you head into the heart of the South Island. Crossing the vast Canterbury Plains along the inland scenic route the first township of Geraldine offers an ideal refreshment stop before you head into Mackenzie country. Passing through places such as Beautiful Valley it's not hard to understand where the names originate. Ascending Burkes Pass and onto the high country plateau and the picturesque town of Lake Tekapo.

Lake Tekapo is New Zealand's highest large lake and its incredible turquoise colour astounds many visitors. The amazing colour of the water is created by the fine rock particles that are suspended in the glacier fed waters and these reflect the light.

One of the most popular landmarks in this region is the Church of the Good Shepherd. This pretty stone building was dedicated in 1935 and must be one of the most photographed in New Zealand. Nearby a bronze statue of a sheepdog pays tribute to the invaluable contribution the animals have made to working the mountain country.

Just a few kilometres west of Lake Tekapo is Mt. John and here you will find the Canterbury University observatory. A drive to the top of the hill gives spectacular views of the Southern Alps, the lakes and the high country. Tours of the observatory are also available.

Lake Alexandrina is just a little further and this wildlife reserve is home to many birds and as no motorised craft are permitted on either Lake McGregor or Lake Alexandrina its a very peaceful place.

Air Safaris operate fantastic scenic flights over the lakes, Mount Cook National Park and the West Coast glaciers including Fox Glacier and Franz Josef.

Tekapo is also a great place to enjoy a guided horse trek with Mackenzie Alpine Horse Trekking or a spot of fishing or lunch on the pristine lake.

INCLUDED - Tekapo Springs Stargazing

Please bring swimwear. Complimentary towel hire is included.

The ultimate in stellar relaxation, Tekapo Star Gazing is the only guided hot pools and star gazing experience in New Zealand! A two-hour experience, the first half of this guided indoor / outdoor tour introduces you to Tekapo's amazing night skies with a unique combination of astronomy and storytelling. The second half of the tour takes place in a 38-degree hot pool; relax on a floating hammock and feel like you're soaking in the stars as you explore the wonder of night skies.

Your accommodation: Peppers Bluewater Resort

Peppers Bluewater sits overlooking stunning Lake Tekapo and the Southern Alps and is just a short walk to the small towns facilities. Also close by is the Tekapo Springs Day Spa, a great place to relax after a day exploring. Facilities include an on site restaurant and bar.

Room type: 2 x 1 Bedroom Lakeview Suite



Driving distance and time (approximate) for this leg is: 227 kms / 141 miles : 2.9 hours

Day 10 - Tuesday 28th January 2025

Lake Tekapo to Te Anau



Lake Tekapo to Te Anau

Lake Pukaki is just another 30 minute drive from Lake Tekapo and as you approach the lake you are often rewarded with spectacular views the full length of the lake and into Aoraki Mount Cook National Park. At 3754 metres Aoraki Mount Cook is New Zealand highest mountain and the peak can often be seen from the visitor centre at the southern end of Lake Pukaki. Twizel, just south of Aoraki Mount Cook was the location of many Lord of the Rings movie scenes and a little further on is Omarama, the gliding capital of New Zealand. Wrinkly Rams is a local café with great coffee and fresh homemade food. The Lindis Pass is one of New Zealand's highest roads with the summit reaching 971 metres. The tussock covered hills offer an unusual contrast as you pass from the Mackenzie Basin and into Central Otago. The first Central Otago settlement you reach is the quaint village of Tarras, which has a number of boutique stores and a lovely café. A short drive further along is the historic and scenic Bendigo Reserve, which was one of Otago's original gold mining settlements. Well marked paths will guide you to the remains of stone cottages and other buildings from this bygone era. Cromwell sits at the head of the Kawarau Gorge and the historic old town is well worth the visit, the buildings are now home to shops and cafes. The old town buildings were relocated from the valley that now sits deep under Lake Dunstan. Continue on through the sheer cliffs of the Kawarau Gorge as they guide you towards Gibbstion, one of New Zealand's premier wine growing regions. At the famous historic Kawarau Bridge you can take a bungy jump or sit back and enjoy the drama as visitors hurtle off the bridge. Approaching Queenstown the impressive Remarkables mountain range comes into view and then beautiful Lake Wakatipu as you head south. The lake guides you into Southland through its rich farming pastures and into Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland National Park.

Your accommodation: Distinction Luxmore Hotel

The perfect base for all your Fiordland travel, Distinction Luxmore Hotel provides comfortable accommodation right in the heart of Te Anau.

Room type: 2 x Deluxe Room, 4 x adult full breakfast



Driving distance and time (approximate) for this leg is: 413 kms / 256 miles : 4.7 hours

Day 11 - Wednesday 29th January 2025

Te Anau to Milford Sound and return to Te Anau, Milford Sound Cruise with RealNZ



Te Anau to Milford Sound and return to Te Anau

The Milford Road

The road to Milford Sound offers some of the most beautiful and iconic scenery in the country. Countless photo opportunities mean this drive should not be rushed. From crystal clear lakes and towering mountains to lush glacier formed meadows, this area is abundant with picture perfect scenes. Stretch your legs on the Chasm Walk, a short stroll through native beech forest to see several powerful waterfalls. Continue on through the Homer Tunnel, an engineering marvel at 1219 metres long. Most stops and points of interest are well signposted on the 121 kilometre road, but don't underestimate how long this drive will take you with scenic stops.

Milford Sound

The most popular sound in the Fiordland National Park, Milford is the only Fiord accessible by road. Arriving into its very small village, you will be greeted with an amazing view of Mitre Peak. Sheer cliffs rise from hundreds of metres below the water's surface, a dramatic and awe-inspiring sight. The length of fjord is 16 kilometres long and can be best explored on a cruise into the heart of the sound. Cruises are available to take you there and back comfortably within 2 hours. Marine mammals such as dolphins and seals can often be seen, and after a large downpour the hundreds of waterfalls along the way are thunderous and a real sight to behold.

Please note: Make sure to allow 2.5hrs from Milford Sound, this takes into account the current road works on the Milford Road.

INCLUDED - Milford Sound Cruise with RealNZ

Your RealNZ Milford Sound Cruise departs the Milford Sound Visitor Terminal at 13:00, please check in by 12:45. Scheduled to return to Terminal at 15:00. Your cruise duration is 2 hours.

Please reconfirm your cruise with RealNZ 48 hours prior on 0800 65 65 01 (freephone within NZ) or on +64 3 249 6000 (if you are calling from international phone number).

Get up close and personal with Milford Sound on a leisurely cruise of this spectacular fiord. From thundering waterfalls to sky-high mountains to lush rainforests, Milford has it all. Experience the spray of a waterfall as you cruise close to sheer rock faces. Informative, participative and relaxed, this is the perfect way to experience Milford Sound to the fullest. A multi-language commentary app is available for free in the app store. This is available on all RealNZ Day Cruises in Milford Sound. Please download prior to arrival and bring your own headphones to enjoy.

Please Bring: Comfortable shoes, waterproof jacket, warm clothing and insect repellent

Please note: Visitors to Milford Sound who wish to park in the main Milford Sound car parks will be charged \$10+ NZD per 1 hour, payable directly and by credit card only, by way of a pay by plate system.

Car parks in the Deepwater Basin Park & Ride area, just outside of Milford Sound, will remain free of charge. For up-to-date information regarding parking charges and free shuttle services, please click [here](#).

There are pleasant, well maintained short walking tracks to the terminal, café, nature walk and other amenities. Please be aware that these free car parks will fill up very quickly in the mornings of summer months. Our recommendation is that you arrive in Milford Sound at least one hour prior to your scheduled cruise departure, and up to one and a half hours prior to your scheduled cruise departure in the peak of the summer period.

Your accommodation: Distinction Luxmore Hotel

The perfect base for all your Fiordland travel, Distinction Luxmore Hotel provides comfortable accommodation right in the heart of Te Anau.

Room type: 2 x Deluxe Room, 4 x adult full breakfast



Driving distance and time (approximate) for this leg is: 233 kms / 145 miles : 3.6 hours

Day 12 - Thursday 30th January 2025

Te Anau to Queenstown



Te Anau to Queenstown

Today you'll cross vast tussock lands on your way to Queenstown. Pass through Mossburn, the deer capital of the nation. Continue on through the Southland countryside where the road begins to hug the lake edge and the Remarkables mountain range towers over your approach into the adventure capital of New Zealand.

Your accommodation: Novotel Queenstown Lakeside

Centrally located the Novotel Queenstown Lakeside Hotel is nestled beside Lake Wakatipu on which Queenstown sits. This fresh, modern hotel offers contemporary rooms plus superb, uninterrupted views of the lake, mountains or adjoining gardens.

Room type: 2 x Standard King, 4 x adult buffet breakfast



Driving distance and time (approximate) for this leg is: 164 kms / 102 miles : 1.9 hours

Day 13 - Friday 31st January 2025

Explore Queenstown, TSS Earnslaw cruise to Walter Peak including gourmet BBQ dinner and a farm tour



Explore Queenstown

Well-known as New Zealand's 'adventure capital', Queenstown is home to a range of adventures, from the world's first and most famous bungy jumps to jet boat thrills, white-water rafting, and skydiving. However, Queenstown offers far more than a fast-paced, action-packed holiday.

Settled on the shores of beautiful Lake Wakatipu beneath a soaring panorama of the Remarkables Mountain Range, this alpine town is surrounded by a plethora of historic, gastronomic, and scenic wonders. Take a stroll through the beautiful lakefront parks and gardens, browse through market stalls on weekends, dine in wonderful al-fresco restaurants, or ride on the 100-year-old historic Steamship - TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak Station. Take the Queenstown Gondola up to Bob's Peak and soak up the panoramic views of the magnificent lake and mountain ranges. And after all of that, if you do want the adrenaline rush, Queenstown is known for taking your pick from the Shotover Jet, Canyon Swing, Zipline, Luge, or Heli-ski.

Shotover Canyon River Jet Boat Adventure - suggested activity

Riding the iconic 'Big Red' Jet Boat through the narrow Shotover Canyon is an exhilarating experience not to be missed. Your skilled jet boat driver pushes the boat to 85 kph, skimming across shallow water and past towering canyon walls. This 25 minute white water ride includes 360 degree spins and maximum thrills.

INCLUDED - TSS Earnslaw cruise to Walter Peak including gourmet BBQ dinner and a farm tour

Enjoy a quintessential Kiwi experience, a delicious gourmet BBQ buffet meal and a farm demonstration in a stunning lakeside setting. Take in the stunning views of Lake Wakatipu and its surroundings as you cruise across the lake to the historic Walter Peak high country farm aboard the TSS Earnslaw Steamship.

Enjoy the ambience of the heart of the stately homestead while your Colonel's Homestead Restaurant chef prepares a gourmet BBQ dinner.

Your seasonal menu includes an extensive selection of local New Zealand produce, including succulent meats and a selection of delicious vegetables and salads. Complete your meal with your choice of delicious desserts, New Zealand cheeses, tea and coffee.

After dinner, watch the farm dogs in action with a sheep-herding demonstration and say hello to the other farm animals. Finally, cruise home under the southern stars and enjoy the fresh night air as the lights of Queenstown draw ever closer.

Your accommodation: Novotel Queenstown Lakeside

Centrally located the Novotel Queenstown Lakeside Hotel is nestled beside Lake Wakatipu on which Queenstown sits. This fresh, modern hotel offers contemporary rooms plus superb, uninterrupted views of the lake, mountains or adjoining gardens.

Room type: 2 x Standard King, 4 x adult buffet breakfast



Day 14 - Saturday 1st February 2025

Explore Queenstown



Explore Queenstown

Known as the adventure capital of the world, Queenstown is home to many adrenaline-inducing activities. Nestled on the shores of Lake Wakatipu, this alpine town is surrounded by towering mountains. Each of the seasons has its own special vibe, and most adrenaline-filled activities can be accessed year-round. Queenstown is home to jet boating, bungy jumping, rafting, skydiving, paragliding, and even indoor thrills. If you want that rush - head out on the Shotover Jet, dive off the Nevis Bungy, freefall on the Canyon Swing, or Zip line the Gondola. While arguably the brightest gem in New Zealand's crown, Queenstown offers far more than an action-packed getaway. If you're looking for a slightly slower pace, there are plenty of recreational activities, including hiking and biking trails to explore, guided tours, boat cruises, scenic flights, or spa and wellness options to help you get away. Head to the lakefront, eat at one of the al fresco eateries, and soak up the local vibes; catch a ride on the iconic 100-year-old steamship the TSS Earnslaw; or take the Skyline Gondola and enjoy bird's-eye views of the Remarkables mountain ranges and Lake Wakatipu. Pack a picnic and go for a hike, only 20 minutes from Central Queenston, Coronet Peak opens for summer sightseeing. You can ride the Peak Gondola to the top for panoramic views and hike the trails, or go for a bike ride on many excellent biking trails. In winter, Queenstown becomes a world-class winter resort, with four ski areas and a range of activities, bars, restaurants, and ways to relax and unwind.

INCLUDED - Queenstown Skyline Gondola Ride

Present your Skyline reference XXXXX upon arrival.

Please note, operating hours are may be subject to change. Please check the opening times online for the most up-to-date information.

Hop aboard the Skyline Gondola - the steepest cable car lift in the Southern Hemisphere! From which you can take in the awe-inspiring views of this spectacular landscape. Sit back and relax as you enjoy panoramic views of The Remarkables, Walter Peak, Cecil Peak, Coronet Peak and the magnificent Lake Wakatipu.

Safari of the Scenes Queenstown Tour - suggested activity

For those keen on the Hobbit and Lord of The Rings films, join Nomad Safaris for an unexpectedly delightful journey. In safari-equipped 4WD vehicles, you will be taken on a true off-road adventure. Experienced guides will take you on a breathtaking excursion through diverse scenery around the Whakatipu Basin. See historic Arrowtown and go over the Arrow River, as well as experiencing the truly remarkable views of the lake and mountain surround from the Skippers Canyon Saddle. Although no sets remain intact, the landscapes are instantly recognisable. Some of the sites you will visit during this tour include the Misty Mountains, Pillars of Kings and the Ford of Bruinen.

Your accommodation: Novotel Queenstown Lakeside

Centrally located the Novotel Queenstown Lakeside Hotel is nestled beside Lake Wakatipu on which Queenstown sits. This fresh, modern hotel offers contemporary rooms plus superb, uninterrupted views of the lake, mountains or adjoining gardens.

Room type: 2 x Standard King, 4 x adult buffet breakfast



Day 15 - Sunday 2nd February 2025

Depart Queenstown today, Farewell from New Zealand



Depart Queenstown today

Drop your rental car at the Queenstown airport today.
Please remember to fill up your car with fuel before returning it to the rental car depot at the airport.

Farewell from New Zealand

Driving distance and time (approximate) for this leg is: 1 kms / 1 miles : 0.0 hours

Included accommodation summary

Day 1 - M Social Hotel Auckland - 2 x Social View Room (includes breakfast)
Day 2 - Sudima Lake Rotorua - 2 x Superior Plus Room, 4 x adult full breakfast
Day 3 - Sudima Lake Rotorua - 2 x Superior Plus Room, 4 x adult full breakfast
Day 4 - Art Deco Masonic Hotel - 2 x Superior King, 4 x adult full breakfast, 1 x Parking
Day 5 - Bolton Hotel Wellington - 1 x Classic One Bedroom Suite (includes breakfast for two)
Day 6 - Canmore Chateau Marlborough - 2 x Executive Suite, 4 x adult full buffet breakfast
Day 7 - Sudima Hotel Kaikōura - 2 x Superior King, 4 x Adult Buffet Breakfast
Day 8 - Distinction Hotel Christchurch - 2 x Superior Room, 4 x Adult Full Breakfast
Day 9 - Peppers Bluewater Resort - 2 x 1 Bedroom Lakeview Suite
Day 10 - Distinction Luxmore Hotel - 2 x Deluxe Room, 4 x adult full breakfast
Day 11 - Distinction Luxmore Hotel - 2 x Deluxe Room, 4 x adult full breakfast
Day 12 - Novotel Queenstown Lakeside - 2 x Standard King, 4 x adult buffet breakfast
Day 13 - Novotel Queenstown Lakeside - 2 x Standard King, 4 x adult buffet breakfast
Day 14 - Novotel Queenstown Lakeside - 2 x Standard King, 4 x adult buffet breakfast

Other inclusions

The following items are included in this itinerary and cost.

Day 1 - Private Transfer Auckland Airport to Auckland Accommodation
Day 1 - Itinerary information by App & in-country support
Day 2 - Private Driver Guide
Day 3 - Te Ra Daytime & Te Po Evening Experience Combo at Te Puia
Day 6 - Interislander Ferry Wellington to Picton
Day 6 - Picton Ferry to Blenheim Accommodation with Picton Shuttles
Day 7 - Private Driver Guide
Day 7 - Ocean's Cabin with Whale Watch Kaikoura
Day 8 - Christchurch Gondola
Day 9 - Tekapo Springs Stargazing
Day 11 - Milford Sound Cruise with RealNZ
Day 13 - TSS Earnslaw cruise to Walter Peak including gourmet BBQ dinner and a farm tour
Day 14 - Queenstown Skyline Gondola Ride

Booking terms and conditions

Itineraries are subject to copyright law. Please make sure you are familiar with the booking terms and conditions.
